**DATE CLAIMERS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MARCH</th>
<th>Every Thur night</th>
<th>Railway Hotel Raffles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>PV Maths Comp - Hall</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Bottle Stall – Marian Markets</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Arts Council money due All yr levels</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Arts Council Performers AGM P&amp;C 7pm Resource Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Harmony Day Tupperware orders due</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Net-Set-Go Sign On</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Choral Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>25-4/4</td>
<td>PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Syd/Can Trip next payment due Disco Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Dog Wash – School</td>
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<td>APRIL</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>PV Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-21</td>
<td>Easter Vacation</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>ANZAC Day Service 2:15pm</td>
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</tbody>
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**Principal’s Message:**

Dear Parents,

**Yr 1-7 Challenge Groups** in English have begun with children working in ability groups three times a week for aspects of their Reading and Spelling programs. Some year levels are also working with Maths Challenge Groups. Teachers work with students of a similar ability and continually challenge them to further develop their knowledge and skills.

Next week parents will receive an invitation to participate in **Parent/Teacher/Student Discussions** to be held in the last fortnight of the term. Your child’s Term 1 progress will be discussed at these meetings and collaboratively determined learning goals will be set for each student. Parents who attended these discussions will give their children a powerful message about the importance of schooling and your interest in their education. Please return your invitation so that teachers can prepare a schedule for these discussions and confirm times with families as soon as possible.

Next Tuesday our **P&C will finalise its 2014 Annual General Meeting** and it is heartening to know that we have a dedicated group of people who are willing to accept voluntary roles in our P&C Association. Thanks to all parents who participate in and support our P&C.

Our next **P&C Activity will be Discos on the evening of Friday March 28**. The P-3 Disco will run from 5:30-7pm and the Yrs 4-7 Disco from 7:30 - 9pm. Please support this event by volunteering to assist on the night and ensuring your children are ready to ‘dance the night away’!

**2014 School Priorities:** Each newsletter this year has outlined an aspect of our school priorities (**Reading Comprehension, Spelling and Number Facts. Explicit Instruction & Responsible Behaviour Plan**) Thus far we have elaborated on the Reading & Spelling priorities. This newsletter provides some more detail about our focus on improving student's Number Fact knowledge.

- An essential component of students’ numeracy skills is the ability to accurately and quickly recall basic number facts.
- Our school has adopted a whole school approach to the teaching and learning of **number fact strategies** which facilitate number fact mastery.
- Addition & Subtraction strategies include … Zero Facts, Count Ons, Doubles, Near Doubles, Near Tens, Remaining Facts.
- Multiplication & Division strategies include … Zero Facts, x1, Doubles, x 5, x 10, Squares, x 9, Remaining x 3, x 4, x 6, x 7 and x8 facts.
- The importance of ‘turn arounds’ (eg. 6 + 7 = 7+ 6) and ‘fact families’ (eg. 6 + 7; 7+ 6; 13 - 6; 13 - 7) are emphasised so as to reduce the learning demand of this work.

**UNIFORM SHOP
HOURS:**
EVERY MORNING
8:30AM TO 9:00AM
COLLECT IPAD TOKENS FROM THE DAILY MERCURY AND DROP THEM IN THE BOX IN THE OFFICE.

ABSENCES: 0749594460
Can I again ask parents to make a direct contact with their child’s teacher if they have an issue to discuss with them. There is no need to discuss this matter with me as Principal before you do so. I know teachers appreciate this direct contact as it provides them with an opportunity to discuss and explain situations that may arise.

Since my arrival at Marian SS, parents have regularly talked to me about the traffic difficulties encountered after the 3pm dismissal of students. There does not seem to be a simple or obvious solution to this issue. One request I would make is for families of older children (Yrs 4-7) to delay their collection of students until 3:10pm. You will be amazed at the reduced traffic density you will encounter by arriving at school at 3:10pm each afternoon. Children are welcome to sit with our supervised “bus children” or wait quietly inside the school fence for these extra 10 minutes in the afternoons.

Thankfully we have escaped any significant impact from the most recent weather event. While the rain is always welcome, it presents a significant challenge for Mr O’Reily as he continues to do an outstanding job maintaining and improving our school grounds. On occasion we have some parents in a position to support Kev in his work and we thank these people for their volunteer work. Contact Kev if you are able to help him out with gardening tasks within our school grounds.

Unfortunately we recently farewelled Mrs Angela Windsor who leaves us after 6 years of wonderful service as a Teacher Aide and Administration Officer. Angela’s friendly and helpful manner will be sadly missed by all in the Marian school community. We thank Angela for her contribution to our school and wish Angela and her family well as they relocate and undertake a new family venture.

Best wishes, Peter Mandryk (Principal)

WITHDRAWALS FROM 2014 NAPLAN TESTING:
Year 3, 5 & 7 NAPLAN Tests will be held from May 13 – 15 (Term 2 Week4). Parents of Yr 3, 5 or 7 students who wish to withdraw students from this year’s NAPLAN testing are asked to contact Mr Mandryk urgently.

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9. Students in these year levels participate in tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of the school’s assessment and reporting process, and do not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test. Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. A result at or above the national minimum standard indicates that the student demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate in curriculum programs for that year level. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.

A NAPLAN report will be issued later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent home. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school. Individual student results are strictly confidential.

Yr 6 & 7 Sydney/Canberra Excursion
Thank you to the families of the 51 students who have paid their deposit for this excursion. This is now a final call for any other Yr 6 or yr 7 students who wish to participate in this wonderful opportunity. Please contact Mr Mandryk by the end of this week (Friday March 14). We are still finalising the cost of the trip and are investigating jackets and beanies for the students to have for the trip. We have some samples arriving soon and will contact parents as soon as they arrive to determine sizing before ordering.

Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students
Staff and students continue their weekly focus on promoting responsible student behaviour because we know this has an enormous impact on the learning outcomes of students. This week classes will be focusing on the following …

- Correct use of Toilets & Safe Movement about the School
- Tuckshop Courtesy, Money at School and Good Audience skills.

We ask parents to partner with us in reinforcing these rules and behaviour expectations.

Traffic Safety Alert
Our Crossing Supervisor has reported that cars are queuing between the flags on the crossing in Kenny’s Road. This is illegal. This unsafe practice is a danger to students and drivers may be fined. Cars are not allowed to stop in the area between the crossing flags at any time if the flags are in place.
Parking Request
Parents attending our P-2 Assemblies on a Friday afternoon are asked not to park in the Kindy Car Park. Only parents collecting children from Kindy should make use of these car parks.

From the Deputy Principal

Parent Reading Morning
There has been a terrific response to our Parent reading morning that is happening on Tuesday the 25th of March. Cilla Martland from Regional Office will be conducting the workshop on how you can assist your child to learn important reading skills. If you would like to attend the workshop please register your interest with Mel Benjamin via email mbenj5@eq.edu.au

Date: Tuesday 25th March
Time: 9:00 am – 11:00 am
Where: Hall

Project 600
Project 600 has been running for the past 3 weeks for some of our Year 5 students. It is an online learning course where students are learning and consolidating reading comprehension skills. Mrs Lee and Mrs Wales are supervising the groups and facilitating the online teacher Mrs Fettell. There will be a letter coming home to parents around the expectations of the must do activities. If you have any questions please see me.

Cheers
Mel Benjamin, A/Deputy Principal

Arts Council Performance
Money is due Mon 17 March. All year levels will attend the performance. No late payments will be accepted as performance starts 9am Tues 18 March.

Student Council News
Harmony Day will be on Friday, 21st March (week 8). The message of Harmony Day is Everyone Belongs. Students are invited to wear either orange, sun-safe coloured clothing OR dress up as another country. Students are also asked to bring a gold coin donation to kick start our fundraising to assist Mr Van Beek with his shave for the Leukaemia Foundation. Students will also be completing an individual paper doll which we will put together to create a school, harmony banner.

Melamine Plate Fundraiser
The Sydney/Canberra years 6/7 fundraising team is holding a melamine plate fundraiser. Plates are $25 each and last for years. To order a plate or plates please clearly mark on an envelope your child’s name and class with your money enclosed and pop in the red box in the office. The template will be available from your child’s classroom with all the instructions to take home and capture your child’s work of art.

Dog Wash Fundraiser
30th March Sunday Dog Wash at the school. Contact Karen Byrnes kbyrn29@eq.edu.au

More info will be available in the coming weeks. We were hoping to run a sausage sizzle on the same day but we need someone to coordinate.

Sports News
As mentioned in the last Newsletter, we have some trials coming up this week. All students wishing to trial for Pioneer Valley Basketball and Pioneer Valley Netball, should see Mr Schmidt for paperwork TOMORROW because the trials are this week. Basketball will be Thursday and Netball on Friday. Both trials will be at Marian SS, but students need to get paperwork sorted prior to the trials.

We also have trials for the Mackay District in AFL and Hockey and these will be on a skills session format in Mackay later in the month. Any athletes interested (and skilled) in these sports should contact Mr Schmidt and we can sort out the necessary details.

We ask that the athlete possess adequate skills to represent the particular level, so those trying out for the Pioneer Valley should be among the best in the Valley, while those nominating for Mackay level, should be able to hold their place in a Mackay representative team to play teams from Rockhampton, Gladstone, etc..

Remember, from 2015 onwards, those students in Secondary School who turn 12 years in that particular year will still be invited to participate in the 12 yrs and Under trials. How that liaison will be achieved is in the hands of a steering committee at the moment, but the younger Year Sixes will not be disadvantaged. Their turn will come around.

Bye for now
BR Schmidt (PE)
Hi everyone. Our AGM was scheduled to be held on February 25th however due to a paperwork hold up we had to postpone it to March 18th to be held in conjunction with the March General Meeting.

The AGM and March P&C Meeting will be held Tuesday night, 18th March from 7pm in the library. At the AGM all positions will be up for nomination (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Tuckshop Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Uniform Shop Co-Ordinator).

UNIFORM SHOP - our amazing Uniform Shop Co-Ordinator Toni is going to have to give away her role due to work commitments so we are also on the hunt for someone to take that role on. The main role is to ensure uniforms are ordered at key times to resupply stocks and also to co-ordinate when the shop is open on school mornings and packing orders etc. If you would like more information on this role, please contact me to have a chat. Whether you are considering an executive position or just want to make a difference to your children's school, please come along and have your say at the meeting. Last year was a massively successful year and we gave the school over $25,000 towards the new computer lab and curriculum resources - we really can make a difference!

We would love to see you there!
Nikki Glossop, P&C President'

Clean Up Australia Day

ON Friday, 28th February, the whole of Marian State School participated in cleaning up the school as part of Clean Up Australia, 2014. Everyone brought a glove and a plastic bag and joined in. It was a successful effort and the school was left looking nice and tidy. All classes from Prep to year 7 have now been given an area of the school to keep clean throughout the year.

By Saskia Koelbel and Taylah Kretschmar

Mr Van Beek Shaves for a Cure

This year Mr Van Beek is taking part in The Leukaemia Foundation’s World’s Greatest Shave Fundraiser. He is planning on shaving his hair, so we asked him a few questions to find out why.

RR: Why are you doing it?
Mr V.: There are a lot of people who have been diagnosed with different types of cancer. The leukaemia foundation supports people who have been diagnosed with blood cancer. I would like to help and support those who have been diagnosed with this terrible disease.

RR: How can students and the community get involved?
Mr V.: There is lots of fundraising, including: guess the lollies in the jar, free dress days will be coming up and donations can be made online at http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/MRVANBEEK, or donations can be brought to the school in a sealed envelope by March 31st. The biggest donator will have the opportunity to chop off Mr Van Beek’s pony tail.

RR: How much money are you hoping to raise?
Mr V.: I’m hoping to raise $2000 and then I will shave my beautiful, luscious locks! So let’s all get involved and support Mr Van Beek and people suffering from Leukaemia.

By Hannah Hill and Quinn Mackenzie.

Sport Shed

Don't forget the sport shed is in action during playtime every first lunch for students to borrow sporting equipment. For those who do not know where the sport shed is, it is located next to B Block. If you do decide to borrow something, please remember to bring it back when the eating bell goes.

By Emma Smith.
Greetings to you all.

The Pioneer Valley Chaplaincy Committee’s AGM was held recently. The position of PVCC Chairperson has become available to an interested community member who would like to fill that role. Feel free to contact MSS and leave a message for me to contact you if this position is one you’d like to fill.

SU Qld is heading back to the High Court in May to defend Federal Funding for school chaplaincy. To raise awareness SU Qld is hitting the road with the ‘Back Our Chappies’ bus tour in March. On Saturday the 22\textsuperscript{nd} of March the bus will be in Mackay. You are invited to “catch the bus” too.

Last year you may have signed Statement of Support forms for school chaplaincy or visited www.BACKOURCHAPPIES.com.au online. To date almost 100 000 people have completed these forms. This speaks powerfully of how Queenslanders value their local chaplain. Thanks if you filled in and returned the Statement of Support forms to school or went on-line to show your support.

The Can Recycling Project is well under way with our first giant bag three quarters full! Thanks to all those families who have sent in their cans; and please keep on doing so. This is greatly appreciated.

Thank-you for your continuing support.

Chappy Liz
COMMUNITY NEWS

WEST’S “TIGERS” JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE
2014 SIGN-ON

STILL TAKING REGISTRATIONS IN ALL AGE GROUPS
NEW PLAYERS WELCOME
PLEASE CONTACT
registrar.wdjlfcc@hotmail.com

COUNTRY UNITED SOCCER CLUB
2014 SEASON
REGISTER NOW
www.myfootballclub.com.au

Players still needed for all age divisions
U5’s to Senior Men and Women

For further details please contact:
Juniors: Tanya Farnham - cuscreag@gmail.com
or Ph: 0448 262 891

Parents who wish their child to prepare for the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist (Communion) are invited to attend a meeting on Wednesday 19 March at the Marian Catholic Church Hall at 7.30pm. For further information please contact:
Charlotte Tomlin 49543863
Nola Agius 49585664

This Friday 14th March, AFL Mackay are set to host the AFL Mackay Club Auskick Program at Harrup Park Oval 9. We would like to invite all students aged 5 (in 2014) to 12 years to come along and participate, with their families. Please note that when we attend your school (either currently in Term 1 or later in the year) students can participate in both programs and all Auskick events throughout the year at no extra cost. The program will be held for 8 weeks at Harrup Park, from 4.30 – 5.30pm every Friday.

Regards,
Dion Obst
Development Coordinator
Harrup Park | Juliet St | Mackay QLD 4740
Ph: (07) 4951 0622 | Fax: (07) 4951 0633 | Mob: 0424 156 248

MARIAN MARKETS
Church Grounds Marian
Sunday 16 March - 8.00am – 12 noon
A huge variety of great stalls
Sausage sizzle & refreshments available

Hawks Softball Club Sign On Day
16th March, 2pm – 4pm at Theo Hansen Park (Softball Fields) Beaconsfield Rd, Mackay.
Games played Saturday’s from 12pm & Season starts mid-May. Contact Cheryl 0428 182 248